

14th July 2020

Dear Parents,

As promised in Friday's letter, we can now confirm arrangements for September and have managed to get everything you need to know into one, (long), letter instead of the individual year group ones that I promised!

We are very much looking forward to having all the children back full time, but, in order to ensure Government guidance is put in place and in order to reduce risk for children, their families and our staff we have had to make changes to our usual routines and processes. **IT IS ESSENTIAL** that we all follow these and do all we can to keep each other safe. It is likely that any confirmed case in children or staff will result in school being closed for 14 days for an entire year group. We know how damaging this will be in terms of further disruption to children's learning and for your own working lives.

Please read the following carefully and ensure that you comply at all times. We will be sending out our Covid-19 Agreement in September for you to sign, to ensure that we share and are clear about all of our responsibilities in this process.

Final Week of Summer Term

You should by now, know who your child's new teacher is and have read letters and an information booklet that was given to you when you collected your child's report on Friday. If you didn't collect your report, and haven't arranged an alternative collection date, we will keep it until September. My letter on the website dated 3rd July gave details of new teachers. Please read it if you haven't already.

Summer Holidays

School will close to all children on Friday 17th July at the usual time. We will not be open over the holiday period. The emergency@grendon.bham.sch.uk email that we have used throughout lockdown will not be in use from Friday 17th July or in September. Staff will not be working, so phone calls or messages to the year group emails or the school's enquiry@grendon.bham.sch.uk will not be answered. These will be in use again from September. The website will not be updated daily from 17th July, but will still contain all the information, useful resources and contact information that has been available throughout lockdown.

For those of you who are eligible and have been receiving vouchers for free school meals, you will get one final voucher to the value of £90 on Monday 20th July.

September - The following information refers to your child's **NEW** year group.

**** New Reception Intake 2020 - information about induction and start dates has been provided separately.**

Tuesday 1st September and Wednesday 2nd September are teacher training days - school is closed to children.

Thursday 3rd September - School will be open **ONLY** for children in **Years 2, 3 and 5** from **8.50am - 3.05pm**. Children should line up at the same place in the playground where they have lined up this year and not move to their new line or playgrounds yet. Their 'old' teacher will meet them.

Friday 4th September - School will be open **ONLY** for children in **Years 1, 4 and 6** from **9.00am - 3.15pm**. Children should line up at the same place in the playground where they have lined up this year and not move to their new lines or playgrounds yet. Their 'old' teacher will meet them.

From Monday 7th September - All children (Year 1 to Year 6) will be in school full time

Do children have to come to school in September?

All children are expected to attend full time in September. Our normal school attendance rules will apply. Please see the letter from Birmingham City Council.

What times will school start and end?

In order to implement Government guidance and minimise numbers of people on site we will need to stagger times of the day slightly. We are aware that this will not be easy if you have more than one child and so have managed to arrange just 2 start times that are only 10 minutes apart. Please stick to the given time and entrances at all times. Please do not gather at the school gates and remember to socially distance from other families when on site. Only one adult per child will be allowed on site. School gates will open at 8.45am and 3pm. Please do not arrive on site more than 5 minutes before your start time. If you have more than one child, please come on to site at your earliest start time, but keep other siblings with you.

Year Group	Start Time	End Time	Entrance	Exit	Drop and Collect Children from Monday 7 th September
1	9.00am	3.15pm	Middle gate (between our main entrance and Grendon and Billesley Nursery drive)	Blue gate onto path by Grendon and Billesley Nursery	Line up in front playground on yellow stripes. An adult can wait with their child.
2	8.50am	3.05pm	Middle gate (between our main entrance and Grendon and Billesley Nursery drive)	Blue gate onto path by Grendon and Billesley Nursery	Line up in front playground on yellow stripes. An adult can wait with their child.
3	8.50am	3.05pm	Main pedestrian gate	Main vehicle gate	Zebra crossing area by bike shelter. Children enter side playground and line up on yellow stripes. Adults do not wait.
4	9.00am	3.15pm	Main pedestrian gate	Main vehicle gate	Zebra crossing area by bike shelter. Children enter side playground and line up on yellow stripes. Adults do not wait.
5	8.50am	3.05pm	Main pedestrian gate	Main vehicle gate	Zebra crossing area by bike shelter. Children enter side playground and line up on yellow stripes. Adults do not wait.
6	9.00am	3.15pm	Main pedestrian gate	Main vehicle gate	Zebra crossing area by bike shelter. Children enter side playground and line up on yellow stripes. Adults do not wait.

Can children continue to come to school on bikes or scooters?

KS2 children can continue to come to school on bikes or scooters and leave them in the bike shelter or scooter racks. KS1 and Reception children can still ride a bike or scooter to school if you choose but they will not be able to leave these at school as this will involve them crossing into an area where other year groups are waiting.

What will children need to bring with them?

A school bag for reading books, a snack and drink for playtime as we will not be selling these in school for the moment. A water bottle which can be refilled in school. Again, school will not be selling these at the moment. Please do not bring other items into school.

What will children wear?

Full school uniform policy will be back in operation from September including PE kit. Uniform can be ordered from the school office before Friday 17th July and collected in September. Information about school uniform can be found on the information tab of the website.

What size bubbles will children be in?

Year group bubbles are the biggest bubbles your child will be in. Year groups will not mix and be kept separate at all times including playtimes, lunchtimes and using toilets. For the majority of time, children will be kept in smaller class size bubbles in their classrooms, with their teacher. For some parts of the day including playtimes, lunchtimes and for specialist teacher or intervention work, children may be in grouped across the two classes in a year group.

What are the arrangements for lunchtime?

Each year group will have a separate time in the hall to eat and a separate playground or zone of the playground to play in. The kitchen will reopen and will provide packed lunches only. Children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to this packed lunch free of charge under the Government's universal free school meals programme. Children in Years 3 - 6 may be entitled to free school meals, based on the benefits that families claim. If you have a child going into Year 3, please note that they will not necessarily get a free school meal. Please contact the school office with your national insurance number and date of birth if you believe your child is eligible. Any child can bring a packed lunch and drink from home if they don't want the school packed lunch. **Vouchers will no longer be given as school is providing food.** Cityserve, (our school meal provider) will review the decision to serve packed lunches at half term in October.

What will the curriculum look like?

We know that children have missed a lot of learning. We know that many families have found home schooling difficult. We know that we cannot simply start where we would normally. We know that the catch up needed isn't a quick process and have planned this carefully across the whole of the next academic year. We have planned an emergency curriculum for the first half term. The focus here will be on identifying and closing gaps quickly in reading, writing and maths. It will also give children opportunity to process all that has happened in lockdown with a clear focus on PSHE and in particular children's mental health. Children will also take part in two PE lessons weekly. From October, we will move seamlessly onto our recovery curriculum, which will be broad and balanced and lead children back to our normal curriculum by Summer 2021.

What do I do if my child is ill?

If your child or any member of your household has any of the 3 symptoms of Covid-19, please follow the guidance in our Covid-19 school agreement. It is expected that all stakeholders will engage with the test and trace process. School will need to be informed of any test results in order for us to take action where necessary. A positive test will mean that person needs to isolate for at least 7 days and the rest of the household be 14 days. A positive test is likely to mean closure of a whole year group for 14 days as staff and children are likely to be asked to self-isolate. Please report all absence to the school office by 9.00am in the usual manner whether it is Covid-19 related or not.

How will the school be cleaned?

We are operating an enhanced cleaning schedule in line with guidance. Cleaning staff will now be on site all day. Shared spaces such as toilets, will be cleaned frequently, as will all touchpoints throughout school. This process has been in place since March and has been effective to date.

What additional hygiene processes will be in place?

In line with guidance, children will be asked to wash hand frequently and at set points during the day. We have built time into the school timetable to ensure this is done. There are additional sanitiser points around school. Children will be asked to use the catch it-bin it- kill it approach or cough or sneeze into their elbow if needed. One of the themes of PHSE lessons will be health and hygiene.

What happens if my child is ill in school?

We will contact you and send them home as normal. If we see any of the 3 symptoms of Covid-19, your child will be isolated immediately. An adult will supervise them until they are collected and may wear PPE. Please ensure we have up to date contact details and that you are able to answer if school calls. We will do all we can to ensure that further closures of classes or year groups are avoided but we need your help and support with this.

What will classrooms look like?

There will be changes to classrooms. We will not have soft furnishing, e.g. cushions in classrooms at this point. Wherever possible desks will face the front, with 2 children at each table. Tables will be as far apart as we can make them, although school guidance recognises that we will not be able to keep children 2m or even 1m apart at all times. Children will have individual stationary items but may share other less frequently used class resources. These will be cleaned after use.

Can I come into school?

We are restricted the numbers of visitors to school and in line with Government guidance will not be having assemblies or celebrations in large groups - we will find alternative ways of doing this. The school office will be open between 9.10am - 9.30am but we ask you to queue on the marks on the ramp outside and only have 1 person in the office at a time. Please phone school or use the enquiry@grendon.bham.sch.uk email address if possible instead of visiting the office in person. Year group emails that have been in operation throughout lockdown will remain in use as a way of you contacting your child's teacher. We will be able to speak to you by phone if required.

Will children and or staff wear PPE?

No, not as a rule. Staff may use PPE in first aid situations or if isolating a child with symptoms. Children or staff are not required to wear masks in school. Masks must be worn on public transport and should be removed at school safely, without touching the front of the mask or your face. They can be kept in children's bags if needed.

I am aware that this is a lot of information to read and understand, but feel that if we are to work together and ensure we are all safe then there must be a clear and shared understanding of processes, rules and routines.

Please read all of this information carefully. If you have further questions or need anything clarifying please ring school on 0121 474 2460 or email enquiry@grendon.bham.sch.uk or emergency@grendon.bham.sch.uk before Friday 17th July and we will respond as soon as we can.

I would urge you to refer to this document and the other information over the Summer and definitely before returning in September in order that all rules and routines are followed and that you can prepare your children for their return.

September will be challenging for us all, but together WE CAN make this a successful return for us all.

Many thanks for your continued support


Mrs Ridley